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Charles Carter to George Washington, April 22, 1756, Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.

FROM COLONEL CHARLES CARTER, ESQ.

April 22 1756

DEAR SR

Your favour without date came to my hands yesterday; from a conversation with Lt. Rutherford I judge it was wrote on Sunday last from which circumstance I conclude you had not seen Mr. Kirkpatrick nor Capt. Stewart who I believe would have satisfied you that the House of Burgesses have ye greatest expectations from yr. Personal appearance on our Frontiers and are so far from imputing any mistakes or irregularities of the Officers to you that I am satisfied they would have resentd it to yr. satisfaction if any person had.

We all know there are many men to be found in All armys abandon'd to ye greatest vices but that can't be imputed to the Comr. whose example is strictly aimiable and that that is yr. general character I dare afirm. and from my constant attendance in the House I can with great truth say I never heard your conduct questiond When ever you are mentiond tis with the greatest respect I hope you will therefore arm yr Self with patience and despise such reflections as May be cast by any Malevolent enimies to you and every upright member of society. The end of those sort of men is to raise uneasiness in yr. Breast and to creat a distrust of yr. friends in hopes of carrying into execution there secret dangerous designs. I have communicated yr. letter to many of yr. friends and we are much at a loss to guess at ye authers and the charge unless some irregularities of the Officers that have

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been mentiond has lead unshrinking individuals into reflections on the whole from a letter wrote by ye worthy capt. Peachy your orders and Instructions appear in a light worthy the character of ye most experienced officer and I assure you a very great majority of our House would prefer you to any Person and in order to prevt a superior command are determind the men to be raised by lot shall not be marchd out of the Colony. The Number in the whole is 1500 they are to be raised by lot out of the able bodied men in all the countys except five frontier countys and with the greatest expedition so that you may expect to have yr regt compleat early in may and without an additional Numr of Officers a Chain of Forts are to be built on our western Frontiers.

Several Ships are arrived in Rapc and York but the acct are not meterial as little alteration is made in ye State and the same expect of a sudden rupture continues.

Mr Benjn Grymes Returnd in a mary land Ship who says France offers 4 millions and to comps: with ye Treaty of Utreck but our King demands 8 millions sterg. and a large numr of Men of Warr to be deliverd as Security and every thing Settld to his Satisfaction in America before he will put a stop to reprizals. I have not yet seen him.

I am concernd to hear of Poor Mercers and latters fate and I pray God to bless you and defend you upon all occasions and may yo. be the happy instrument of deliverg us from ye Barbarous incursions of our Enimies. The Cherokee Indians are to be marchd directly to Winchester I hope you will use yr utmost indeavours to prevail with ye Inhabitants to continue at their respective Settlements as deserting ye Country of Frederick will be a fatal Step and Subject them to ruin My compts to My Lord Fairfax and all my Acquaintance and believe me to be Dr Sr

Yr Most obedient and afft huml Servt CHAS, CARTER.